

Remarks

Claims 1-40 are pending. Claims 16-30 have been rejected. Claims 1-15 and 31-40 have been withdrawn.

Amendment to Specification:

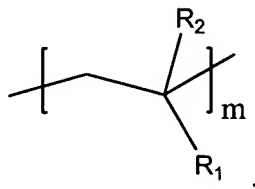
The specification has been amended to correct two typographic errors and to specifically exclude poly(vinylidene fluoride) from the definition of non-fluorinated block. As is obvious to an artisan, poly(vinylidene fluoride) is considered to be fluorinated as correctly indicated by the Examiner. Applicant appreciates the Examiner noting this error and believes the curing of this error does not present new matter.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph

Claims 16-30 have rejected as being indefinite. Applicant respectfully maintains that the term “non-fluorinated block” is used as opposite to the term “fluorinated block,” referring to a block having no fluorine atom directly bonded to an atom in the backbone of the block. Applicant submits the following examples for support for this definition:

(1) multitude (well over 70) of exemplary polymers listed at page 6, line to page 7, line 13 which clearly support the definition.

(2) the block described at page 10, lines 1-6, which is



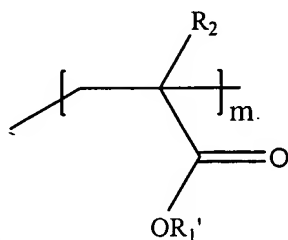
wherein R₁ can be -CH₃, -CF₃, -CH₂CH₃, -CH₂CH₂CH₃, -CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃, -phenyl, naphthyl, -COOR₃, or -CONR₃R₄;

wherein R₂ can be -H, -CH₃, -CF₃, -CH₂CH₃, -CH₂CH₂CH₃, -CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃, -

phenyl, or naphthalenyl; and

wherein R_3 and R_4 can be $-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$, or $-\text{PEG}$.

(3) the block copolymer described at page 10, lines 7 to 14, which has a non-

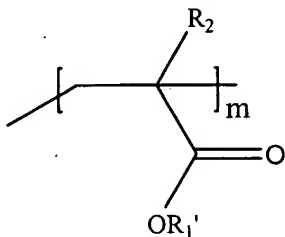


fluorinated block of

wherein R_1' can be $-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$, or $-\text{PEG}$, and

wherein R_2 can be $-\text{H}$ or $-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CF}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{phenyl}$ or naphthyl .

(4) the block copolymer described at page 10, line 15 to page 11, line 4, which



has a non-fluorinated block of

wherein R_1' is $-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$, or $-\text{PEG}$, and

wherein R_2 is $-\text{H}$ or $-\text{CH}_3$.

(5) the block copolymer described at page 11, lines 5-10, which has a non-fluorinated block that can be can be polyesters, polyethers, polyanhydrides, polyglycols,

poly(alkylene oxides), polyhydroxyalkanoates, polyphosphazenes, polyurethanes, or a combination thereof.

All chemists would appreciate the fact that all these examples do not have fluorine atom bonded to the backbone of the polymer. Accordingly, the term "non-fluorinated block" is clear to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Rejoinder of claims 31-40

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner rejoin claims 31-40 to claims 16-30. Claims 31-40 are drawn to methods of making the copolymers according to claims 16-30 and are commensurate in scope with claims 16-30. Accordingly, the rejoinder of claims 31-40 to claims 16-30 is proper.

The undersigned authorizes the examiner to charge any fees that may be required or credit of any overpayment to be made to Deposit Account No. 07-1850.


CONCLUSION

Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any suggestions or amendments to the claims to place the claims in condition for allowance, applicant would prefer a telephone call to the undersigned attorney for approval of an Examiner's amendment. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (415) 393-9885.

Date: February 27, 2006
Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P.
One Maritime Plaza, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94111
Telephone (415) 393-9885
Facsimile (415) 393-9887

Respectfully submitted,



Zhaoyang Li, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 46,872